

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 596

97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES WRIGHT (Sponsor), LAIR, THOMSON,
MCNEIL AND MONTECILLO (Co-sponsors).

1520L.02I

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal section 160.053, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof two new sections relating to prekindergarten programs.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 160.053, RSMo, is repealed and two new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 160.053 and 163.018, to read as follows:

160.053. 1. **If a school district maintains a prekindergarten program, a child may be eligible for admission to the prekindergarten program only if the child has reached the age of three before the first day of August of the school year beginning in that calendar year.**

2. If a school district maintains a kindergarten program, a child is eligible for admission to kindergarten and to the summer school session immediately preceding kindergarten, if offered, if the child reaches the age of five before the first day of August of the school year beginning in that calendar year or if the child is a military dependent who has successfully completed an accredited prekindergarten program or has attended an accredited kindergarten program in another state. A child is eligible for admission to first grade if the child reaches the age of six before the first day of August of the school year beginning in that calendar year or if the child is a military dependent who has successfully completed an accredited kindergarten program in another state.

[2.] 3. Any kindergarten or grade one pupil beginning the school term and any pupil beginning summer school prior to a kindergarten school term in a metropolitan school district or an urban school district containing the greater part of the population of a city which has more

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

17 than three hundred thousand inhabitants pursuant to section 160.054 or 160.055 and
18 subsequently transferring to another school district in this state in which the child's birth date
19 would preclude such child's eligibility for entrance shall be deemed eligible for attendance and
20 shall not be required to meet the minimum age requirements. The receiving school district shall
21 receive state aid for the child, notwithstanding the provisions of section 160.051.

22 [3.] 4. Any child who completes the kindergarten year shall not be required to meet the
23 age requirements of a district for entrance into grade one.

24 [4.] 5. The provisions of this section relating to kindergarten instruction and state aid
25 therefor shall not apply during any particular school year to those districts which do not provide
26 kindergarten classes that year.

**163.018. 1. Notwithstanding the definition of "average daily attendance" in
2 subdivision (2) of section 163.011 to the contrary, pupils between the ages of three and five
3 attending a prekindergarten program that is operated by and in a district providing full-
4 day kindergarten and that meets standards established by the state board of education,
5 shall be included in the district's calculation of average daily attendance.**

**6 2. The provisions of this section shall become applicable in any school year
7 subsequent to a school year in which the amount appropriated under subsections 1 and 2
8 of section 163.031 is equal to or exceeds the amount necessary to fund the entire entitlement
9 calculation determined under subsections 1 and 2 of section 163.031, and shall remain
10 applicable in all school years thereafter, irrespective of the amount appropriated under
11 subsections 1 and 2 of section 163.031 in any succeeding year.**

**12 3. This section shall not require school attendance beyond that mandated under
13 section 167.031 and shall not change or amend the provisions of sections 160.051, 160.053,
14 160.054, and 160.055 relating to kindergarten attendance.**

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